



ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICAN
RAILROADS

Communications Department
50 F Street, NW, Washington, DC 20001
Telephone: (202) 639-2555
Facsimile: (202) 639-2558

TRENDS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, October 15, 1992 -- Intermodal traffic rose sharply during the week ended October 10, although other rail freight traffic showed little change from 1991 levels, the Association of American Railroads (AAR) reported today.

Intermodal volume totaled 144,199 trailers and containers, up 7.1 percent from the comparable 1991 week. Trailer volume rose 6.6 percent for the week, while container traffic was up 7.7 percent.

Carload traffic, which does not include intermodal, totaled 339,331 cars during the week, down 0.4 percent from the comparable 1991 week. Loadings were up 2.2 percent in the West, but down 2.7 percent in the East. Coal traffic was off 5.1 percent and was responsible for the overall decline, noted Dr. Harvey A. Levine, vice president of the AAR's Economics and Finance Department.

Total freight traffic for the week was estimated at 21.7 billion ton-miles, the same as in the comparable 1991 week.

For the first 41 weeks of 1992, AAR reported total carloadings of 13,273,702, up 0.9 percent from the same 1991 period. Intermodal volume totaled 5,211,078 trailers and containers, up 7.3 percent. Total volume was estimated at 835.5 billion ton-miles, up 2.5 percent from 1991.

Railroads reporting to the AAR account for 97 percent of intermodal traffic and 94 percent of carloadings.

(more)

WEEKLY TRAFFIC OF MAJOR RAILROADS FOR THE WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 10, 1992

CARLOADS ORIGINATED, BY COMMODITY GROUP					
COMMODITY	WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 10, 1992	COMPARISON WITH			
		SAME WEEK OF 1991	CHANGE	PRECEDING WEEK	CHANGE
Grain	30,374	30,109	0.9 %	27,328	11.1 %
Farm Products, Ex. Grain	2,321	2,441	-4.9	1,968	17.9
Metallic Ores	20,335	14,193	43.3	19,217	5.8
Coal	124,800	131,499	-5.1	122,380	2.0
Crushed Stone, Sand & Gravel	15,656	15,534	0.8	15,971	-2.0
Nonmetallic Minerals	8,917	9,801	-9.0	8,726	2.2
Grain Mill Products	10,363	9,778	6.0	10,209	1.5
Food & Kindred Products	9,275	9,152	1.3	9,433	-1.7
Primary Forest Products	8,980	9,325	-3.7	8,880	1.1
Lumber & Wood Products	5,207	5,120	1.7	5,466	-4.7
Pulp, Paper & Allied Products	10,331	10,011	3.2	10,540	-2.0
Chemicals	28,505	28,918	-1.4	29,555	-3.6
Petroleum Products	5,347	5,275	1.4	5,129	4.3
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	10,441	9,654	8.2	10,422	0.2
Coke	5,546	5,270	5.2	5,946	-6.7
Metals & Products	9,444	10,794	-12.5	10,210	-7.5
Motor Vehicles & Equipment	18,614	18,095	2.9	19,724	-5.6
Waste & Scrap Materials	8,645	8,778	-1.5	8,735	-1.0
All Other Carloads	6,230	7,017	-11.2	6,143	1.4
Total	339,331	340,764	-0.4 %	335,982	1.0 %

SUMMARY: CARLOADS ORIGINATED, INTERMODAL TRAFFIC AND ESTIMATED TON-MILES						
TRAFFIC	WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 10, 1992			CUMULATIVE: 41 WEEKS ENDING OCTOBER 10, 1992		
	1992	1991	CHANGE	1992	1991	CHANGE
Carloads Originated	339,331	340,764	-0.4 %	13,273,702	13,150,825	0.9 %
Intermodal Traffic Originated						
Trailers	73,215	68,703	6.6	2,586,316	2,492,577	3.8
Containers	70,984	65,894	7.7	2,624,762	2,364,522	11.0
Total	144,199	134,597	7.1	5,211,078	4,857,099	7.3
Estimated Ton-Miles						
Class I Railroads (Billions)	21.7	21.7	0.0 %	835.5	815.2	2.5 %